



August 25, 2014

Mr. Tom Wheeler  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I write this letter on behalf of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce to express my support for the proposed transaction between Comcast and Time Warner Cable. The Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce represents 2,000 member businesses, and works to promote the interests of its members by assuming a leadership role in making Fort Worth an excellent place in which to live, work, and do business.

Currently, Fort Worth is located in a Charter service market, but were the transaction to be approved, Comcast would expand its network to Fort Worth, which could greatly benefit our member businesses and consumers.

Comcast has shown itself to be a strong corporate partner in the areas of Texas where it currently offers service, and has shown a commitment to supporting local employment. We are very pleased to have learned that Comcast employs 3,000 full-time workers in Texas, and in 2013 spent, over \$236 million in total employee investment. This figure covers full health-care benefits, on-the-job training, payroll and payroll taxes, and tuition reimbursement for employees. Comcast and NBCUniversal own and operate 121 total properties in Texas (including our very own hometown NBC station - KXAS) and generate an annual state and local tax income of nearly \$151 million dollars. I believe that Fort Worth could certainly benefit from having such a strong economic partner in our community and local economy, and feel that the move would have a very positive impact.

Further, Comcast invests heavily in developing innovative and cutting-edge technology and services, which will add to the investment and improvements made by Charter to their Fort Worth Network. In today's age, communication and information have become the vital resources that drive our increasingly information-based economy, and Comcast's high-speed, expansive network and infrastructure allow for businesses to communicate and share information at high

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levels of efficiency. Comcast has invested billions in its network and next-generation technologies, and the results speak for themselves; I understand that the company has boosted its broadband speeds 13 times in the last 12 years, doubled the capacity of its network every 18 months, and has deployed the industry's fastest in-home Wi-Fi gateways to millions of consumers across the nation.

The businesses and consumers of Fort Worth would benefit from access to these top-of-the-line services, and by approving the proposed transaction, the FCC could allow Fort Worth to catch up to current Comcast markets.

Further, the approval of this transaction will increase competition and innovation throughout the telecommunications industry. By combining resources, Comcast and Time Warner Cable would be a stronger competitor for businesses and consumers of all sizes in Fort Worth. This stronger model will drive other companies to increase their investments in technology and innovation in order to remain competitive with Comcast, with the result being that our consumers and businesses will have the best services to choose from.

I hope that the FCC will realize the exciting potential that the Comcast-Time Warner Cable transaction offers, and approve this transaction so that our businesses can flourish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Thornton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bill" and last name "Thornton" clearly distinguishable.

Bill Thornton  
President & CEO  
Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce